

Gloomy Prophets

Public Opinion

RACIAL STRIFE

For some time, even before the Detroit riot, there have been in the American press, coloured and white, gloomy forebodings of future trouble between white and coloured Americans. It is taken for granted by the writers that there will be bitter clashes between the two races in the post-war period. The feeling seems to be that the returned Southern Negro soldier, having enjoyed human rights abroad, will come home imbued with the determination to obtain his full rights in the land of his birth. It is also believed that the consciousness of having fought for the freedom of other people will be a potent influence in inflaming the mind of the Negro to demand his rights.

There can be no doubt at all that many Negroes will demand their rights in sections of the United States where those rights are denied. Some of the demands will be made none too politely. They will be provocative and challenging. On the other hand, the whites, anxious to retain their ancient privileges, will resist the letting down of the colour bar, especially where it expresses itself in racial separation or segregation. That clashes will occur, its to be expected.

WORLD WAR NO. 1.

I lived in the United States throughout the last war and I know a little about what happened then and immediately after. It is my view that nothing half as serious has happened during this war or is likely to happen in the coming post-war period.

Race riots are not new in the United States. They happen almost any time and anywhere. Some of the worst riots took place in times of peace. The Atlanta riot was in the first decade of this century, then there was the Springfield, Illinois, riot. Both were bitterly fought and the death-toll was high on both sides. During and after World War 1 there was a series of bloody riots. From memory I can name some. There were sanguinary clashes in East St. Louis, Tulsa, Omaha, Washington, Chicago, Bugaloosa, Longview, Houston, to men-

tion a few of the better known ones.

SPURNED ADVICE

The Washington riot was a pitched battle. Among the rioters killed was a Georgia Congressman. Anticipating trouble from the returned soldiers, President Woodrow Wilson, a Southerner, sent the late Dr. Robert R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee Institute, to Europe to lecture Negro soldiers to be patient and forbearing when they returned to the United States. To use his own words, they should be "modest and unassuming."

The advice given by Dr. Moton was denounced by

BY

W. A. DOMINGO

Northern Negroes. The coloured press dubbed him an Uncle Tom with the bandana handkerchief on his head. The more extreme leaders made no compromise. They demanded full rights and argued that it were better to have the riots than for coloured Americans to acquiesce in the denial of their rights. Some went so far as to point out that the dying in American race riots has never been all on one side, even if Negroes

suffer the larger casualties.

BATTLES IN ENGLAND

It is not generally known, even in America, that in this war there have been some severe clashes between white and coloured soldiers, not only in the United States, but among those who were training in England. Last year a New York evening paper, "P.M.", published a series of articles by Roi Ottley which revealed that pitched battles had taken place in England; that one of them lasted for days and that there had been many dead and wounded, on both sides.

Facts like these and the militant tone of the coloured press explain, in part, the reason why some people fear for the worse, racially, in the post-war era in America. Away from the immediate scene, it is hard for anyone to pass a worthwhile judgment, but I have a feeling, based upon my experiences and observations during the last war that there will be fewer really serious race riots this time. As a matter of fact, the only race riots during this war that can bear comparison with those I mentioned, were the Harlem and Detroit riots, and the casualties were very small. It is generally conceded that the trouble in Harlem was a riot, but not a race riot.

AN OPTIMISTIC VIEW

A powerful factor that is likely to operate to lessen the possibility of trouble flaring up over the country to any great extent, is the new willingness of Southerners to meet Negro leaders and discuss their mutual problems. Formerly, it took a really brave Southerner to face the facts and admit that the whites treated Negroes unjustly. Today educated and Christian-minded young Southerners are lead-

ing the fight for social justice for all Americans.

Paralleling the white Southerners are coloured leaders who, while determined to defend the rights of their people, are, nevertheless, anxious to avoid bloodshed. These leaders believe in discussion and peaceful action. Then, too, the white press seems more friendly to Negroes than was the case in the past. All these considerations lead me to doubt that post-war riots will be anything near what the clashes which occur will not be as bloody or numerous as those after the last war.

Prevention Is Best Race Riot Cure, Says Sociologist

NEW YORK—Race riots, with the accompanying breaking of heads and store fronts, the beating and terrorizing of defenseless and inoffensive citizens, are merely symptoms of a more serious disease," an American Council on Race Relations pamphlet released this week, points out.

Entitled "Race Riots Aren't Necessary," the booklet written by Alfred McClung Lee, Wayne university sociology professor, gives a complete analysis of the cause of race riots, and outlines a 10-point program to help communities prepare against them this summer.

The pamphlet tells how to spot danger signals preceding rioting, and recommends specific emergency action that the community, individuals and organizations should take. Plans for long-term programs to foster better inter-group relations are also outlined.

Race riots, the author states, "are not the disease itself. They are what shocks you as you see them above the surface, but the worst part lies underneath, and is born of an alliance of insecurity and ignorance."

The author emphasizes that "there is no substitute for a constructive long-term program of planning and working for better inter-group and inter-racial relations in every American community that has minorities."

To meet a crisis the pamphlet advocates an emergency action program made up of ten specific steps:

1. See that the mayor knows how to bring in the state militia, or, better, the U. S. Army with the least possible delay;

2. Get co-operation of transport companies;
3. Consult management and labor leaders;
4. Plan newspaper coverage;
5. Prepare constructive radio programs;
6. Work out programs with schools;
7. Enlist the help of the clergy;
8. Obtain aid of veterans' groups;
9. Mobilize youth organizations;
10. Make use of civic and service clubs.

Individuals must learn to detect danger signals which usually precede race riots, the pamphlet declares, since "a race riot does not occur without well-informed observers predicting it sometimes months in advance."

Pulse-feeling for symptoms of inter-racial tensions can best be done by watching police attitudes, incidents of friction, demagogic

Race Fighting In Alabama Follows Arrest of Negro

7-9-45
Eufaula, Ala., July 8 (AP)—Tension which led to fighting between whites and Negroes here last night had subsided today, Police Chief H. L. McCulloch reported. The chief said no further conflict was expected.

Violence which flared last night and resulted in the injury of one Negro came as an aftermath of the arrest of a Negro last week on a charge of raping and drowning a white girl, McCulloch asserted.

The chief said three Negroes were attacked last night by white bands and that one of the three suffered knife wounds which were not sufficiently serious to warrant hospitalization. He said no arrests had been

groups, rises in delinquency and crime, rumor situation, congestions in housing and transportation, and employment conditions, the pamphlet points out.

What To Do

Ten-Point Plan For Race Riots

Pittsburgh Courier
NEW YORK—In an emergency move to help cities and towns prevent race riots this summer, the Public Affairs Committee in co-operation with the American Council on Race Relations last week issued Race Riots Aren't Necessary, with a ten-point program of action on what to do if race riots threaten.

The pamphlet was written by Dr. Alfred McClung Lee, head of Wayne University's sociology department and authority on the 1943 Detroit race riot.

To meet a crisis the pamphlet advocates an emergency action program made up of ten specific steps:

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N. Y. C. COMMON SENSE
SEPTEMBER, 1945

Race Relations

RIOTS AHEAD?

AS A RESULT OF THE WAR, Negroes—even in the South—have flocked into industry in unprecedented numbers. Moreover, large numbers of colored soldiers are unwilling to put up with dictatorship at home after fighting for democracy abroad.

Many white Southerners realize that it will be necessary for them to concede the Negro at least some approach to economic and political equality after the war. Thus courts and Democratic organizations in several states have begun to give effect to the Supreme Court's decision outlawing the "white primary."

Others, however, are less willing to

yield their position as a master race. If they cannot retain it by legal subterfuge, they are preparing to resort to

violence, as they have done many times in the past.

Organizations with this purpose in view are reported to be springing up throughout the South. According to Harry McAlpin, Washington correspondent of the National Negro Press Association, one of the centers of this type of activity is Birmingham, Alabama.

McAlpin reports that in this industrial center racist organizations are passing out ammunition on a mass scale. Meanwhile, white merchants are refusing to sell ammunition to Negroes. The latter, however, are nevertheless finding ways of securing it. The result may well prove to be bloodshed on a scale far exceeding that of the Detroit riot of 1943. Yet, so far, neither Alabama nor the Federal Government seems to have taken any steps to prevent such a development.

trouble is apt to flare in crowded places, either through misunderstanding or through economic tensions.

"Our barometer of incidents has shown a steady downward trend all summer," Schermer continued.

"WE WERE PARTICULARLY happy that V-J Day, when hundreds of thousands jammed the downtown area, passed off without incident."

Schermer pointed out that Detroit faces a greater responsibility than before the war. The Negro population has increased 50 per cent since 1940, and its ratio to total population has risen from 9 to 12 per cent.

Of great help in the curbing of racial animosity has been the attitude of the police and bus and streetcar operators, Schermer said.

"BOTH DEPARTMENTS have installed 'in-service' training in the handling of such problems, and they have worked out magnificently," he explained.

Proper handling of a minor

Sound Planning Erasing Danger Of Race Riots

The Detroit Free Press
BY J. DORSEY CALLAGHAN
Free Press Staff Writer

Must Detroit look forward to a recurrence of the murderous race riots of June, 1943? How much progress has been made by Detroit in the gentle art of living together?

These questions have been the concern of civic leaders of all races in the City during the past two years. As a result they have been moving quietly to prevent conflict, and with considerable success.

The Detroit Inter-racial Committee and the Police Department alike are determined that nothing of the kind shall happen again. Both are convinced that the use of force to curb rioting will be an admission of defeat. Labor and management also are contributing largely towards a better feeling.

"Detroit has built up the best system for collecting information on racial incidents of any town in the Nation," George Schermer, director of the Inter-racial Committee, said.

"From sources such as the Police Department, the DSR, business, labor, Negro leaders and press and real estate dealers, we have been able to compile a barometer of feeling that gives good grounds for optimism."

Incident, he said, can go a long ways toward keeping it minor.

Adding brightness to the picture was the recent news that approximately 1,500 dwelling units for Negroes are to be built almost immediately.

DR. ALFRED McCLUNG LEE, of Wayne University, author of the recently released pamphlet "Race Riots Aren't Necessary," pointed to the crowding of both Negro and white tenants because of war restrictions as a dangerous condition.

SCHERMER POINTED out that

"A solution of the housing problem is so vital that it should be a first order of business," he warned.

"It is not only that Negro families have had to occupy crowded quarters, but that neighboring white areas have been just as crowded."

"It isn't that there is necessarily any natural animosity in the beginning, any more than there is when two families move in together. The danger is that crowding magnifies minor troubles out of all proportion."

LEE WARNED also that there is apparent a growth of subversive elements which thrive on dissension, such as the Ku Klux Klan, Black Legion and others.

"It is not that there has been any marked increase in membership," he said. "It is rather that the leadership in such hatred-breeding organizations always comes to the fore in times of stress, to promote ill-feeling."

As for the economic problems involved in reconversion, Schermer cited the report of the Committee for Economic Development as saying there will be more jobs than ever before when the change-over is completed.

"Real estate groups have come to the conclusion that the Negro is a good risk and will provide an excellent market for homes," he said. "It only remains for both business and government to see that homes are provided."

Youth Drive For Segregation

The Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
The riots on high school children in Chicago, Gary and New York are an alarming symptom of a deep and deadly ailment.

They are alarming because they are directed against colored students and are staged in an effort to force the establishment of segregated schools where none previously existed.

These youngsters, we firmly believe, did not think up these demonstrations all by themselves.

As in past instances, we believe investigation will disclose the dirty hand of some selfish interests.

For the past six years the world has been subjected to a steady barrage of hate and horror stories from the ends of the world, and it is too much to expect that the tales of man's inhumanity to man have not become familiar to the younger generation.

In such an intellectual atmosphere, how easy is it to revive scarcely dormant prejudices which the United States Government itself implements by its widespread jim-crow practices.

Probably these misguided white youths reason that if the Federal Government can and does discriminate against and segregate colored citizens purely on Hitlerian racial grounds, why should not the same thing be done in education?

Obviously Negroes can give only one answer to these Negro-phobic demonstrations.

They must stand firm, on the defensive but not aggressive, minding their business as long as permitted to do so, and fighting back courageously when assailed.

In none of the cities where these demonstrations have taken place should Negroes retreat a single step on the issue of segregated schools.

To do so, for any reason, would be a fatal error.


RALPH T. JONES
Atlanta Constitution Ga.

A Reporter Learns Something of Mobs

2-28-45

"A possible broken nose, one closed eye, numerous cuts about the head, bruises too numerous to mention, and an entirely new slant on mobs in general and French-Canadian mobs in particular, are the combined results of this reporter's too-close observation of the riot."

So reads the closing paragraph of a story on a Montreal, Canada, dateline. It is the story of an anti-conscription riot which broke out in a Quebec town named Drummondville, when Royal Canadian Mounted Police and military police attempted to round up army deserters and violators of the dominion conscription law.

For once the mounties did not get their men, in any large degree, and a force of 100 mounties and military police were finally compelled to withdraw from the town, leaving the scene of battle in the hands of the rioters.

It happened last Saturday night. It constitutes a blot on the Canadian war record and adds one more incident to one of the most puzzling human situations in the world. Intelligent people cannot understand why the French-Canadians are so bitterly opposed to playing their part, as men, in the world fight for freedom. With Canada performing so magnificently, with Canadian soldiers making a grand record on the battle lines, and with the home country, France, so recently liberated from German conquest, you would think the French-Canadians would want to rise en masse against the common foe.

But, to the contrary, they do everything to avoid serving in the Canadian army, they fight with all their strength against selective service for overseas and, when authority seeks to enforce the laws of the dominion, they riot. They are mysterious folk.

Ignorance, Probably

It is almost always true when riots and mobs come into existence, that the members of those mobs are chiefly the most ignorant—which means the most intolerant—of the community. The French-Canadians, mostly, are ignorant. They are extremely provincial in their habits of thought and know very little of what goes on in the outside world. While of French descent, they have long ago become a people very little like the people of France. Even their language is different from continental French. It has frequently been said that a Frenchman from Paris and a backwoods French Canuck can't understand each other's language at all.

I know no French-Canadian, by the way. One time was forced to turn down a pretty good job offer because of that lingual lack. It was on the Montreal Star and use of both languages, French-Canadian and English, was essential. *2-28-45*

A Sore Reporter

There were three newspapermen who felt the anger of that Drummondville mob last Saturday night. The one who wrote the story from which I took the opening paragraph, bylines his stuff Earl Banner. Names of the other two are not given. Says Earl Banner, in his story, "... three newspapermen, including this correspondent, were singled out by the mob as 'stoolies,' knocked to the ground and given the boot by the howling French-Canadian youth."

(Further evidence, you see, of mob ignorance. Only woefully ignorant people would thus misunderstand the duty and the ethics of a reporter's job.)

Banner continues:

"An unidentified French-Canadian rescued this reporter. He forced his way into the group kicking their victim as he lay, semi-conscious in the snow, pulled him to his feet, and half dragged him into the near-by doorway of an upstairs restaurant. The crowd went after both of them but they managed to escape through a back door of the building."

Never, in nearly 40 years of newspaper experience, has such an incident been my misfortune. For which I'm thankful. Perhaps I should be thankful, too, I didn't get that job in Montreal. There have been moments, though. There was that time I was barred from a meeting of strikers, but "covered" it, nevertheless, by hanging to a fire escape outside an open window of the hall.

And there was the police reporter—not me—on this paper who opinion went with a local police squad to round up a desperado barricaded

Civilian

inside a house. That reporter learned that night what it is to be shot at. *3-28-48*

And there was the afternoon of the big Atlanta fire, when we helped move bedridden invalids of houses in path of the flames.

Those are other stories, for another time, however. No mob has yet "given me the boot," and I can rake up not the slightest envy for Earl Banner of Montreal.

2,500 IN SAN QUENTIN

RIOT AT PRISON MESS

3-26-45

SAN QUENTIN, Calif., March

25 (AP)—Twenty-five hundred San

Quentin prison convicts rioted at

mess this afternoon, hurling cups

and silverware wildly for one-half

hour in a demonstration which

Warden Clinton Duffy ascribed to

opposition to permitting Negroes

and whites to intermingle at meals.

One convict was stabbed in the

neck with a fork and three others

suffered head cuts from flying

crockery. Six guards overseeing

the meal fired over the milling convicts' heads to bring the riot to an

end. *3-26-45*

The outbreak came while Warden

Duffy was entertaining a group of

State legislators in his prison res-

ervation house.

The men were returned to their

cells after the demonstration and

Warden Duffy said a full-scale in-

vestigation would be made.

Reverse Conviction College Students On "Riot" Charge

Savannah Tribune Ga.
3-15-45

2 YOUTHS HAD BEEN FOUND GUILTY IN SA- VANNAH COURT

OF Attempting To Cause Trouble On College Street Car

ATLANTA, (ANP)—The Georgia Court of Appeals Tuesday reversed the conviction of two students of the Georgia State College for Negroes at Savannah, charged with trying to incite riot on a Savannah street car.

Judge Nash Broyles wrote the opinion holding that there was no evidence that the students,

James P. Smith and John Moody, acted in concert or that their conduct constituted a riot. Judge B. C. Gardner dissented. According to the record in the court, the defendants were among 50 students of the college, who got on the street car at the college stop and grabbed front seats, which they refused to surrender to white passengers boarding the street car later. Georgia's jim crow laws make it mandatory for Negro passengers to sit from the rear up and whites from the front of street cars. *3-15-45*

The white passengers became belligerent and the two convicted students allegedly pulled knives. The motorman claimed that he was threatened when he sought to make the students move to the rear and was forced to stop the car and call the police.

27 WEST INDIAN WORKERS REPORTED INJURED IN RIOT AT CAMP MURPHY

Kingston, Jamaica

Public Opinion

A Canapress report from Stuart, Florida, yesterday, says that according to Sherrif Richard Hancock of that state, about 2,200 Negro farm labourers from the Bahamas and Jamaica awaiting transportation home, rioted at Camp Murphy on Monday and law enforcement officers from three counties were required to restore order. Hancock reported that 27 Negro workers were removed to hospitals, two with fractured skulls and another with a broken back. Six men were lodged in Martin county jail.

8-29-45 were standing by the camp today. Sherrif John Kirk The sherrif said that the work of Palm Beach and five de ers took over the former army puties were also on hand after camp now used by the Warburring to the scene yester Food Administration, swept lay. Sherrif Hancock said through the barracks wielding that trouble had been brewing clubs, destroying cots and for several days and burst out furnishings and defied the with unexpected fury, yesterday camp authorities. A call for lay.

help from the camp sent the herrif burrying there with all available deputies and furth r assistance was summoned from Palm Beach and Broward counties.

AMAZING STATEMENT

Captain R. G. Ray, army officer at the camp said that the cause of the trouble had not been determined. As soon as the cause and the amount of damage have been ascertained, they will be made public he states. *8-29-45*

In the light of recent and insistent reports from Florida of the workers' eagerness to return home because of deplorable conditions at Camp Murphy and the dilatoriness of the U. S. authorities to provide them with transportation, WFA Labour spokesmen have made an amazing statement. According to Canapress they give as the probable cause of the alleged disturbance: "the Negroes' unwillingness to return to their comparatively drab former existence after sampling high wages and luxury goods during their employment in the United States."

SAID TROUBLE WAS
BREWING

State Highway Patrolmen

75a-1945

France Soldiers

13 Die In French *Chicago Defender* Troop Race Riot *Chicago, Illinois* Senegalese Clash With Riviera Soldiers

By EDWARD B. TOLES
(Defender War Correspondent)

ST. RAPHAEL, France — Thirteen persons were reported killed in a riot between French and Senegalese soldiers at this Riviera city, 20 miles from Cannes, last Monday. *9-1-45*

It was learned that the African soldiers, angered at the delay in transportation home, climaxed their protests into a threatened revolt last Sunday night at ten o'clock.

More than 350 Senegalese engaged in guerilla warfare.

Paris Papers Silent

There was little comment in the Paris papers upon my return here from the Riviera area where I witnessed at Drammont on the Mediterranean the celebration of France's memorial of the Allied D-Day landings last Aug. 15 in the south of France.

I saw red-capped Senegalese companies officered by French officers, but only one Negro Senegalese, a second lieutenant.

According to the Paris newspaper "Le Figaro," a French lieutenant was insulted by Senegalese who attacked a French patrol. A Senegalese soldier was killed.

Seek Revenge

Some 600 armed Senegalese seeking revenge for their comrade's death, entered the Mediterranean port town, St. Raphael, plundered and killed, and attempted to release Senegalese who had been arrested. *9-1-45*

The battle with police resulted in one gendarme, one Senegalese soldier, and 11 civilians dead and many wounded. Hundreds of the armed Africans took to the neighboring hills, the paper said.

This was the second incident growing out of Senegalese protests. Last spring a pitched battle took place in Marseille shortly after the Syria-Lebanon disturbances. Thousands of Senegalese are now seen in Marseilles.

Riots Inevitable Unless Communities Plan Now

CHICAGO—(ANP)—America can expect serious interracial clashes in many major communities unless immediate and effective planning for post-war employment is undertaken, Alexander Liveright, executive director of the American Council of Race Relations, stated recently, following a survey of Pacific Coast and Midwestern communities.

The survey, conducted on the West Coast by Mr. Liveright and in the Midwest by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, community services director, reveals that actual plans to fight race tensions have not developed beyond those existing in World War I, when there followed a wave of race riots. However, there is more interest today among all sections of the population, including Government, but definite plans need to be formulated, it was pointed out.

NEED HIGHER JOB RATES

Present efforts to achieve better racial and religious relations will prove futile, warned Liveright and Weaver, unless employment levels are maintained at a rate much higher than before the war.

They point to the fact that the employment patterns developed during the war have tended to concentrate minority groups, and especially Negroes, in those plants most likely to be drastically cut-back; in occupations offering the least opportunity for learning marketable skills; and in geographical areas most likely to be seriously affected by reconversion lags or the absence of sizeable peace-time industry.

Citing Portland, Ore., as an example, Liveright explained that 75,000 to 90,000 persons, or more than 50 per cent of the pre-war working population, will be laid off as a result of cut-backs in ship building. Of this number, close to 10,000 are Negroes. Some 1,000 Negroes have been more or less steadily employed in stable, or non-war industries.

65 PER CENT TO STAY

The belief of Portland's pre-war residents that the war workers will go back to their original homes is refuted by surveys which reveal that 65 per cent of all in-migrants plan to stay where they are after the war.

Although the Portland situation is the most serious in proportion to its pre-war population, it is not unique. A similar problem exists in Seattle and Bremerton, where the Negro population has increased from 3,789 in 1940 to an estimated 14,000 to 16,000. In Seattle, however, an attempt is being made to meet the problem through an official Seattle Civic Unity Committee, appointed by Mayor William T. Devin.

San Francisco and Los Angeles also face major problems with respect to reconversion and its effect on race relations. In both communities Negro workers are concentrated in the purely war industries; ship-building in San Francisco and aircraft and ship-building in

Los Angeles. Not only is the insecurity of both white and Negro workers and their fears for the future not being allayed by local and State actions, but in almost all States on the West Coast legislation is being proposed which will severely threaten what little security they now may have. For example, groups in almost all States are now attempting to increase residence requirements for State aid.

SLIGHT INCREASE INLAND

Weaver reported that although proportional increases in Negro population have been somewhat smaller in Midwestern and Eastern cities, the actual number of persons involved is larger, and similar and equally serious problems are anticipated in communities such as Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Philadelphia, Wilmington and a number of other communities.

In all of these cities minority groups have been introduced into war plants late in the game, have not been too widely upgraded and may well be among the first to be laid off. Further, these workers are concentrated in the larger war plants, which may close down permanently in the peace-time economy or will be difficult to convert for peace-time production.

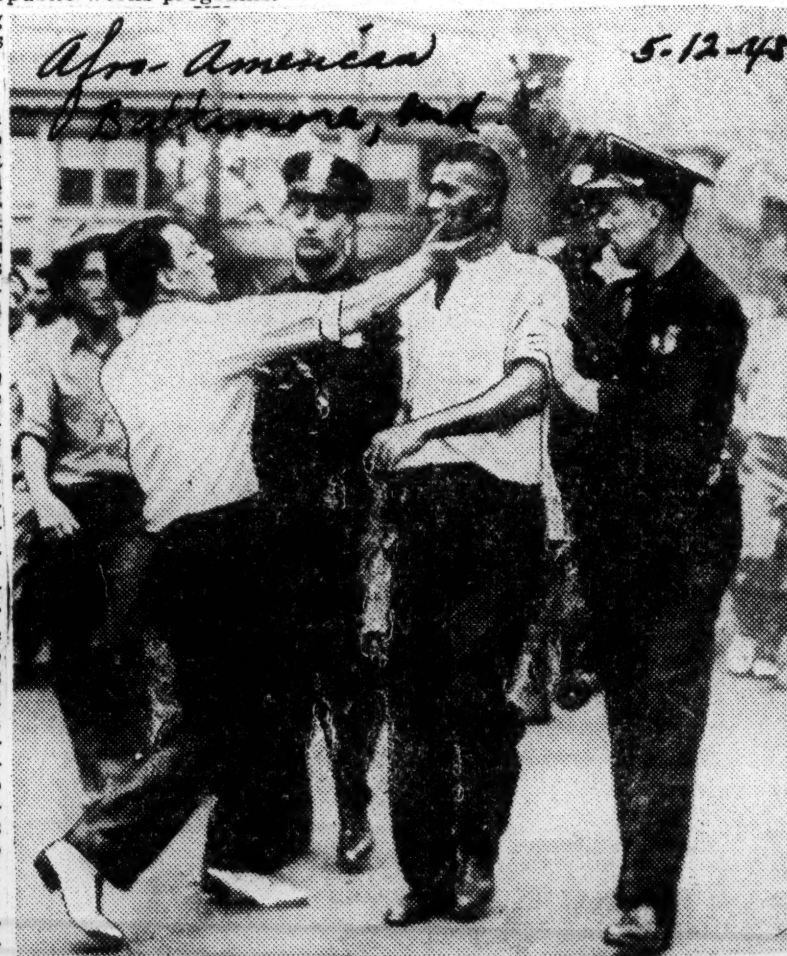
The pattern therefore is a fairly uniform one in almost all labor shortage areas throughout the country. A large influx of Negro and white war workers, Negroes concentrated in a relatively small number of industries and plants, few prospects for maintaining employment levels after the war, communities and States unwilling to assume the relief burden of in-migrant workers and the workers themselves unwilling or unable to return to their old communities.

JOBS TO CAUSE FRICTIONS

Insecurity and competition for jobs, friction between old and new members of the community and between different racial groups, complicated by the return of veterans who will rightfully expect to re-assume their former place in the community, all combine to create a perfect tinder-box for the sparks which may ignite riots and civil disturbances.

Although the situation looks extremely serious, Liveright emphasized that it is not too late to move toward a solution of the problem. At the local level, communities must immediately analyze the situation likely to develop when war production ceases and must secure the cooperation of such groups as the Committee for Economic Development, the Chamber of Com-

merce and local labor unions in planning for the development of their private post-war industry. Municipal housing, slum clearance and recreational projects must likewise be examined as a means of cushioning unemployment. Communities can also cooperate with their State governments on State-wide public works programs.



Scene taken during Detroit race riot which shook the country and awoke America to the growing fascist trends which threatened to sweep the world.

Warden Bars Jimcra Despite Riot

People's Voice 3-31-45 N.Y.C.
SAN QUENTIN, Calif.—Warden Clinton Duffy of San Quentin Prison stood firm on his new policy of having Negro and white convicts eat together despite a riot which broke out Sunday evening in which one inmate was stabbed and three others injured. Monday night 800 of the white convicts demonstrated in quieter fashion against the new order by waiting until the 477 Negroes had completed their mess before they entered the mess hall. About 1,300 whites, however, ate with the Negroes, while the dissenters were permitted to eat later. The warden insisted that he would not go back on his order lifting the messhall segregation plan. On Sunday afternoon cups and silverware were hurled and forks were used for fighting in the riot, which lasted for half an hour. Guards shot over the heads of the prisoners to quell them.

2,200 Negroes Riot in Florida

STUART, Fla.—(AP)—Sheriff Richard Hancock said that about 2,200 imported Negro farm laborers from the Bahamas and Jamaica awaiting shipment home rioted at Camp Murphy and law enforcement officers from three counties were required to restore order.

Hancock reported that 27 Negro workers were removed to hospitals, two with fractured skulls and another with a broken back, and six men were lodged in the Martin County jail at Stuart.

The sheriff said the rioting Negroes took over the former Army camp now used by the War Food Administration, swept through barracks wielding clubs and destroying cots and furnishings, and defied camp authorities.

Rioters At Va. Horse Show Draw Heavy Fines

MANASSAS, Va.—Three of five men arrested on Labor day after a riot at a horse show staged for colored people here were fined by Trial Justice C. Lacy Compton in Prince William county court.

The trouble started when police tried to confiscate a carload of bootleg whisky being sold at the show. A 15-year-old boy was killed, Deputy Sheriff Turner D. Wheeling was beaten and stabbed in the back and Sheriff J. P. Kerlin was beaten.

No Casualties, But Property Damage Heavy Tommy Guns And Tear Gas Used By Police Squads

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — (ANP)—The Negro section known as Frenchtown was the scene of a riot last week between 200 and 250 soldiers from Camp Gordon Johnston and Dale Mabry fields. No casualties were reported from the rioting that lasted approximately two hours. Much property was damaged.

The disturbance was caused by a group of AWOL soldiers from Dale Mabry field who came into town to "paint it red" and "tear it apart". This contingent of soldiers were said to be on their way overseas. After receiving notice they were to be shipped out, they were restricted to the base. The Dale Mabry group is said to have walked four miles down the Seaboard Air Lines track to town.

WINDOWS BROKEN

Many of the Negro owned and operated businesses were the heaviest sufferers from the riot. Many windows were broken and doors torn down.

The local police were first on the scene. They were able to quell the disturbance somewhat with the use of tear gas. The soldiers were held at bay by the police, state road patrolmen and deputies from the office of the sheriff until the military police arrived.

A regular riot squad or MP's arrived armed with tommy-guns and proceeded to round up and arrest the soldiers wandering around in Frenchtown.

A cordon was thrown around this section of the city and it was under martial law from 10:30 p. m. until midnight.

GUILTY DEPART

It was later reported that the guilty soldiers boarded a train the next morning for parts unknown.

The local police have been complimented for handling the situation without bloodshed. Malcolm N. Yancey, city manager, has asked three military sources to investigate the riot. His request has been sent to Brig. Gen. William H. Holcombe of Camp Gordon Johnston. Col. Laurence B. Hickam, Dale

Mabry field and to the fourth service command in Atlanta. Chief of Police W. L. Prater announced that no arrests were made by local police. He also announced that the extent of the damage was undetermined.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.
HOME NEWS
Circ. D. 20,502

IMPORTED FARM LABORERS RIOT 2,200 in Camp Awaiting Ships Home Storm Army Barracks

STUART, Fla., Aug. 28 (AP)—Sheriff Richard Hancock said today that about 2,200 imported Negro farm laborers from the Bahamas and Jamaica awaiting shipment home rioted at Camp Murphy yesterday and law enforcement officers from three counties were required to restore order.

Hancock reported that 27 Negro workers were removed to hospitals, two with fractured skulls and another with a broken back, and six men were lodged in the Martin county jail at Stuart.

The sheriff said the rioting Negroes took over the former Army camp now used by the War Food Administration, swept through barracks wielding clubs and destroying cots and furnishings, and defied camp authorities.

A call for help from the camp sent the sheriff hurrying there with all available deputies, and further assistance was summoned from Palm Beach and Broward counties.

Capt. R. G. Ray, Army officer at the camp, said the cause of the trouble had not been determined. As soon as the cause and amount of damage have been ascertained they will be made public, he stated.

West Indian Jobless Riot In Dixie Chicago Defender Stage Hunger Strike In Jamaica

(Defender Washington Bureau)
WASHINGTON, D. C.—The West Indies' war boom burst this week with rioting in Dixie and hunger strikes sweeping the home islands.

In Stuart, Fla., 2,200 West Indian farm workers rioted rather than take the road back to home and poverty.

In Jamaica this week a mass "hunger march" on the governor-general's house was threatened by mobs of unemployed who milled about the streets of Kingston.

In Washington, War Manpower Commission Chief Paul V. McNutt continued with a speedy program to return all imported workers to their homes, willing or unwilling, including the 16,000 West Indians and 67,000 Mexicans.

In Chicago a delegation of Jamaican legislators headed by Major A. C. Cuphey, in the states to investigate treatment of Jamaican workers, were holding a banquet in a swank Southside restaurant the night of the Stuart rioting. They indicated that they had found conditions under which their countrymen worked "much better" than expected.

Face Dilemma

Imported to save the country from war-time famine, the West Indian workers here face a dilemma not of their own making but one which neither American nor their home government is prepared to meet.

The Jamaicans' fears of being dumped among the swarming unemployed on their home island appeared to be matched by the fears of West Indians at the return of more than 30,000 workers and fighters who left the islands at the beginning of the war.

Sullen and restless as they awaited return home to low-pay jobs in Jamaica and the Bahamas, the laborers here devastated their shipment camp in a demonstration that ended with 27 in the hospital and 6 in Martin county jail.

What touched off the uprising remains a mystery but what quieted it down were club-wielding sheriffs from Palm Beach and Broward Counties who fractured the skulls of two laborers and broke the back of another.

Governor Calls Patrol

Sheriff Richard Hancock, who reported the riot, said law officers from three counties were required to restore order at Camp Murphy, a former Army post where the workers were awaiting shipment home.

Florida's Governor Caldwell sent highway patrolmen rushing to the scene.

In the sheriff's opinion the West Indian workers had become accustomed to

higher living standards and resented their return home to unemployment.

For several days, the sheriff said, the men had been sullen and resentful at the prospects of departure and their feelings flared into violence. They took possession of the camp, swept through the barracks and destroyed cots and furnishings, brandishing clubs and defied camp authorities.

As the rioting subsided the 27 hurt were hospitalized and six were promptly arrested. State police and deputy sheriffs were placed throughout the week to guard the camp.

Demonstrate In Kingston

Earlier Hubert E. Spangler, area representative for the Office of Labor, had attributed the riot to a "200 or 300 year feud" between the Barbadians and Jamaicans. Subsequent events however seemed to indicate that this was a superficial observation.

Throughout the week groups of unemployed in Jamaica staged demonstrations in the capital, Kingston. Going to various governmental offices, including that of the acting mayor, and to the leader of the labor party, the men were told there was no money available to give them jobs on public works.

Jamaican leaders pointed out that the economy of the islands was at a low ebb since the banana trade has suffered along with other exports because of an acute lack of shipping space. It has not been possible to import enough of much-needed foodstuffs to supplement that grown in the island.

The Jamaican Labor party, which swept into office recently with nine Negroes and one white official, is said to be facing its most serious crisis. Critics of the new party claim that the present legislators are without sufficient experience to solve the present employment problem.

WMC Speeds Return

Washington's only answer to the foreign workers problem was to announce the speedy return of West Indian workers to their homelands.

Of the 83,000 foreign workers recruited, 67,000 were brought from Mexico to fill vacancies on American railroads, and 16,000 were brought from Barbados, Jamaica and British Honduras for work in eastern and midwestern industries. The Jamaicans and Barbadians entered the United States as civilian workers under provisions of Public Laws 229 and 373 and through contract with their governments, which did not entail personal bond. The Mexicans entered the United States under personal contracts and personal bond of \$500.

The contracts for the West Indian workers are being terminated

by WMC as rapidly as qualified American workers become available, McNutt said. No new employee orders for foreign workers are to be accepted.

The Jamaican delegation which stopped in Chicago on a tour to investigate conditions surrounding the Jamaican workers were guests at a banquet held at the Morris Eat shop in Chicago and sponsored by the American West Indies Welfare association.

Visited Camps

The delegation had visited Camp Kings Park and Jones Beach, Long Island; Sherbourne Camp, Ithaca, New York; Hartford, Conn., and Kings Farm Camp and Seabrook camp in Massachusetts and Ohio. They came as a result of stories printed in Jamaican papers which stated that West Indian workers here were not being properly housed and fed. The delegation indicated that they had found conditions infinitely better than they had expected from reports which had reached their island.

Upon hearing reports of the Camp Murphy riot the entire delegation departed for Florida.

Members of the group included C. C. Campbell, member of the house of representatives; A. Z. Malcolm, member of the house of representatives; Herbert G. MacDonald, chief liaison officer, British West Indies Central Labor organization; R. O. de Lisser, area liaison officer at Madison, Wis.; C. C. Russell, liaison officer at Chicago and Miss D. I. Tomlinson, secretary of the British CLO.

MASS CRUCIFIXION*Seattle, Wash.**Northwest Enterprise 1-17-45*

The navy courts-martial which found 50 Negro seamen guilty on a "mutiny" charge, and the army courts-martial which found 28 Negro soldiers guilty of rioting constitute nothing less than a mass crucifixion of the Negro race and its contribution to the war effort.

The sailors were given savage sentences ranging from five to fifteen years in prison. At this writing the soldiers have not yet been sentenced. The sailors were supposed to have conspired to disobey orders to load ammunition ships at a West Coast port. The incident happened right after 250 Negro sailors had been killed in an explosion loading ammunition at the port. The soldiers were supposed to have rioted against Italian prisoners of war stationed with them at Fort Lawton, Wash.

The sailors' defense was that they did not refuse to obey an order to load ammunition, that they were asked whether they wanted to go on loading after the fatal blast and a certain number of them said they did not wish to continue. The detailed record in the trial of the soldiers is not yet available, but it is known that they were incensed over the preferred treatment given Italian ex-enemies, in contrast to the Jim Crowism and humiliation meted out to them in the uniform of their country.

In both trials the statement appeared frequently in the press that these were the largest trials ever held by the army and navy in their histories, giving the clear impression that Negroes upset historic American tradition by mass disloyalty and violence in wartime. **The Crisis** recognizes the necessity for absolute discipline in time or war and does not condone mutiny or rioting by soldiers; but we cannot escape the belief that while these trials were staged under the cloak of enforcing discipline, there was the added purpose of smearing and crucifying the entire race. The boards of review in both cases ought to consider carefully this aspect, as well as the records and the pleas of counsel.—**The Crisis.**

Soldiers Convicted

approved by the Judge Advocate General of the Army.

By Courtmartial Get

The court-martial, one of the largest in the history of the Army, grew out of a riot at the port last August, during which one member of an Italian service unit was hanged.

Reduced Sentences*New York Age*

SEATTLE, Wash.—Reduced sen-

tences and a chance at rehabilitation have been given 12 of the 31 Negro soldiers convicted by a court-martial in December in the Fort Lawton riot case.

The action was taken by Brigadier General Eley P. Denson, commanding general of the port, and

You Can Prevent Riots

The Afro-American

By ERNEST A. GRAY JR.

(From Harper's Magazine)

Baltimore, MD.

Race riots can be prevented. Techniques have been worked out which can keep minor frictions from blazing into major disorders. These methods are reasonably simple. They have been tested.

New York City proved on August 1 and 2, 1943, for example, that a dangerous Harlem outbreak could be prevented from spilling over into a race riot. The country, over, potential race riots were averted on an average of once a week in the year following the bloody Detroit disturbance of June, 1943.

If enough people can learn these techniques fast enough, we may be able this time to escape the ugly epidemic of rioting which flared clear across the nation after the last war. *12-17-45*

1. Every city and town with a sizable colored population should determine through thorough surveys the temper of race relations.

It should then prepare to control and eventually eliminate any frictions which the surveys may reveal. It should set up an official Citizens' Committee of Race Relations.

Need Special Training

2. The police force should get special training both in the handling of riots and in the day-to-day problems of helping colored and whites get along together.

In many cities the police have long been notoriously hostile to colored, and colored people in turn have feared and mistrusted the police.

3. The danger spots where conflict is likely to break out can be located in advance, so that special precautions can be taken in time.

In all communities danger spots have certain common characteristics. *12-17-45*

Danger Spots

They are places where antagonistic groups meet in "incidental or competitive contact." A white neighborhood into which colored have recently moved is very likely to be a friction area.

So are public parks, beaches and shopping centers.

Plants employing colored and located in antagonistic neighborhoods, and transit lines carrying mixed passengers, particularly those running through such neighborhoods, also are likely sites of trouble.

4. Rumors about racial friction should be exposed and refuted as promptly as possible. Such rumors precede every riot and help keep it going.

One type consists of general statements about a large racial group. The other kind of rumor is highly specific, purporting to give actual names, places, and dates.

Fair Handling

5. Police should be moved into the trouble zone immediately and in the largest possible force—but they must use their power with the utmost discretion.

6. It is not enough for the police to be fair in their handling of a rioting crowd—they should also give an unmistakable appearance of impartiality and even handed justice.

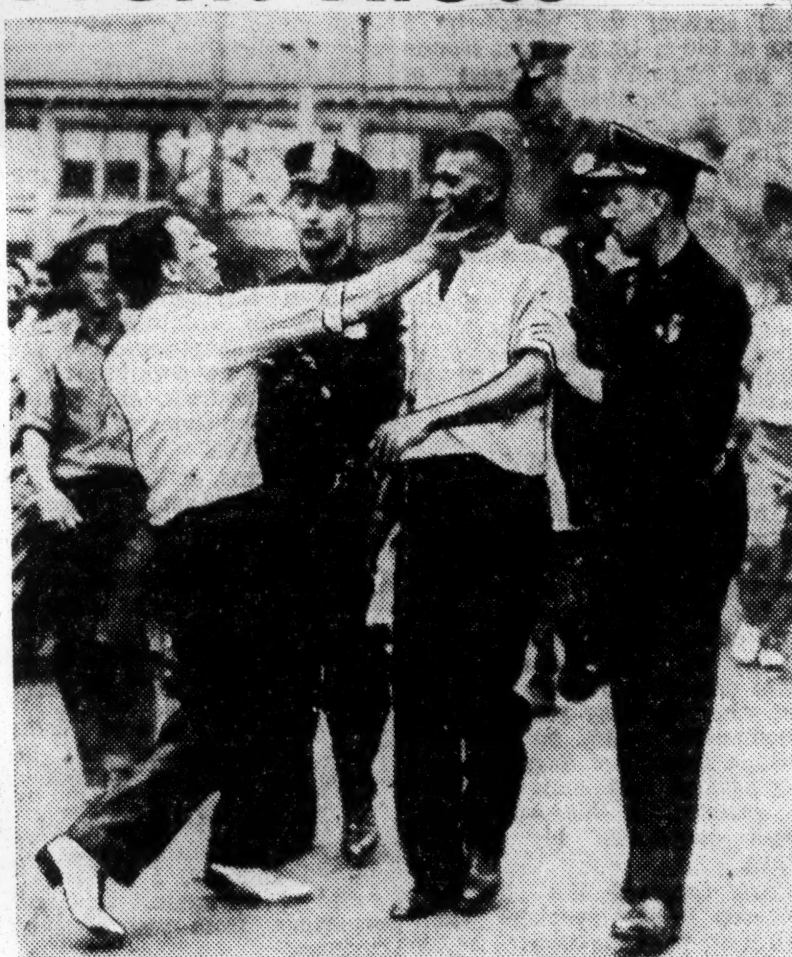
They can thus eliminate distrust and discourage hoodlums from getting the idea that they can attack colored with impunity.

7. Police should immediately isolate the area in which trouble has broken out.

Break Up Crowds

8. Breaking big crowds up into little ones and then dispersing them is one of the most effective methods of preventing violence.

9. Finally, municipal authorities should make arrangements in advance to call in the militia if necessary. *12-17-45*



Scene during the riot in Detroit during June, 1943. White policemen lead a colored man away from the mob, a white attacker gives the "final blow."

Army Called In To Quell

Virginia Riot *Atlanta Daily World* Authority In

Use Of Federal

Troops Questioned

Atlanta, Georgia 9-12-45

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Members of the Army of the United States were pressed into service to help civilian police authorities quell a so-called riot in nearby Manassas, Va., last week. Authority for use of the federal troops remains undetermined.

The "riot," which found the tables turned, occurred when a large group of Negroes attempted the annual Labor Day horse show in Manassas, resented efforts of local police officers to stop delivery of whiskey being brought into the horse show grounds. The sheriff and his deputy were disarmed and beaten by the Negroes. A state trooper who joined law enforcement officers was also beaten but got away and called for help.

Frantic calls for assistance went out to nearby counties and to all state police in 18 Northern Virginia counties, and to military authorities at a nearby Army post. Several citizens (white) were deputized and armed.

About 100 MPs and soldiers from Vint Hill, Army Signal Corps camp, were "pressed into service," although there was no indication that any federal intervention was authorized or necessary. 9-15-45

One Negro was fatally injured in the melee, and a deputy sheriff was stabbed and beaten. Six Negroes were arrested when the police, armed citizens, and Army descended on the scene. The outbreak occurred about 6:30. By dusk it had reached its peak. At 9 o'clock state troopers ordered the crowd from the grounds and the gates were locked. Not until 11 p.m. were the military police and soldiers along with the visiting police and armed citizens, released from their duties.

As Army Is Called To *The Informer* *Houston Texas* Quell So-Called Riot

9-15-45

By Harry McAlpin

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American MP's Rescue 2 GI's From 30 Mob- Mad White Soldiers

(By The Associated Negro Press)

London, Aug 22.—Charges may not be placed against the 23 American Negro soldiers involved in a race brawl at the Colonial Club last week when two U. S. Marines, one white soldier and one white girl were stabbed, according to an announcement from the U. S. Army provost marshal's department.

At the same time, no indication was given as to what will happen to the two Negro soldiers charged with stabbing the four whites during a free-for-all at the club following an argument between a white soldier and a Negro civilian.

Go Home

"Why don't you get back to your own damned country?" the Negro civilian is reported to have asked the white soldier during the argument.

Local citizens have complained about the conduct of white American troops, mostly from the southern part of the United States, who seem unable to adjust themselves to the society here that does not place jim crow restrictions upon Negroes. These men are reported to protest furiously because Negro soldiers and white girls fraternize and because Negro soldiers are not barred from local places of entertainment.

American MP's rescued two Negro soldiers from 30 mob-mad white American soldiers somewhere in the vicinity of Piccadilly circus before the knifing. But shots from the military police-men's guns, fired in mid air, failed to halt a soldier mob from converging on the Colonial club. They hurled rocks at the place and demanded that the Negroes come out.

One Negro broke from the

building and a number of shouting white troops chased him to Rainbow corner, off Piccadilly circus, beating him severely on the head. British and American police dispersed the mob assailing the Colonial club where the Negro civilian and soldier fled after their clash with white troops.

They went into the club and arrested 23 Negroes, two white soldiers and three white women. The injured whites are reported to be hospitalized. An army investigation is being launched into the trouble, the provost marshal's department reported.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

POST

Cir. D. 182,292

AUG 18 1945

Race Riot in Piccadilly GIs Injured in London Melee

London, Aug. 18 (AP)—Several American service men were injured and 23 persons arrested early today after two hours of street fighting near Piccadilly Circus between white soldiers and a group of Negroes.

Pistols and knives were used in the melee which started with an argument between a white soldier and a Negro civilian at the entrance of a club frequented by Negroes. The argument soon became violent and the Negro was joined by others from the club. The white soldiers in turn found ready reinforcements in the throngs of servicemen always about that area at night.

The Negroes retreated inside the club. The others, armed with bottles and clubs, were restrained by bobbies and military police from going after them. At least two white soldiers were taken to hospitals and a police sergeant said one Negro soldier received a serious head wound.

Four Stabbed In Free-For-All Between Races

Citizens Complain About Conduct Of Majority Troops

LONDON — (A N P) — Charges may not be placed against the 23 American Negro soldiers involved in a race brawl at the Colonial club last week when two U. S. marines, one white soldier and one white girl were stabbed, according to an announcement from the U. S. Army provost marshal's department.

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"GO HOME"

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place and demanded that the Negroes come out.

MOB DISPERSED

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Negro-White Troops V-J London Riot

Jeep Riding Mobsters Turn Picadilly Circus Into Georgia Lynching

LONDON (Special) — Two white and one Negro American soldier were reported injured when a bloody brawl, in which guns cracked and knives flashed, broke out in famed Piccadilly Circus, London.

The Soho section was brought to an open-mouthed halt while Londoners gaped at a bitter running race-riot between Negro and white American soldiers. Thousands of British civilians milled about, alternately trying to help and hinder the white-helmeted American military police and the London Bobbies.

Reports of the beginning and cause of the melee were confused and contradictory. It appears that a fight started in front of a club in Piccadilly Circus which is frequented by Negroes. Some reports said one white soldier was involved, other reports more sensational in tone said that two white Marines and a white girl were in the fight.

Following reports that someone had been stabbed, the club district was invaded by 30 white American troops who dashed down Gerrard St. and seized two Negroes. MP's came to the rescue, but not before the Negroes had been brutally pummeled about. Shots were fired into the air in an attempt to disperse the mob, but Mississippi courage could not be so easily dampened.

The unruly mob swept down upon the Colonial Club hurling rocks and swinging clubs, demanding that the Negroes inside come out.

One Negro broke from the build-

ing and a number of shouting, wild-eyed mobsters chased him to Rainbow Circus, Piccadilly Circus, where to the wide-eyed astonishment of Londoners he was beaten unmercifully about the head.

The mob was finally dispersed by the American military police, who managed to fight their way into the club.

They emerged later with 23 Negroes, two white soldiers and three women, all of whom were put under arrest.

U. S. Army officials tried to minimize the affair and there was no attempt to explain why only Negroes had been arrested.

Three Convicted In Soldier Riot

FORT BENJAMIN HARRISON, Ind. — (ANP) — Two soldiers were freed last week and three were convicted in the \$100,000 riot here on May 31 when eight barracks were burned down.

The three men were picked out as the leaders of 500 who ran amuck in an effort to release a prisoner from solitary confinement. Capt. Lipsey, the convicted men charged, had hit the confined prisoner and subjected him to other brutal treatment.

The men convicted by a military court here on charges of violating Article of War No. 89 were Willie Marsh, seven years; William Sprouse, white, seven years; and James J. Johnson, five years.

Those found not guilty were Charles Washington, who was defended by William C. Martin, attorney, and Corlesslie Cross. William L. Gunter was chief military counsel for the five accused men.

James Carrington, a government witness, said he organized a club for the purpose of releasing a prisoner from solitary confinement, who had been placed there by Capt. Lipsey.

Soldiers Clash In London

V-J Day Race Riot

By GEORGE PADMORE
(Defender London Correspondent)

LONDON. — V-J celebrations here culminated in bitter race rioting—perhaps the worst ever seen in London.

Several American service men were injured and 23 persons arrested after two hours of street fighting near Piccadilly Circus between white soldiers and a group of Negroes.

Pistols and knives were used in the melee which started with an argument between a white soldier and a Negro civilian at the entrance of a club frequented by Negroes.

Checkup of casualties revealed the stabbing of one Marine, a GI and one white girl during an argument between seven Africans, West Indians and their American Negro soldier friends, and two white American soldiers, two sailors and a white English girl.

Starts at Colonial Club

Reports indicate the colored men were leaving the Colonial club, homeward bound, when the white Americans—still jubilant over defeat of the Japanese—threatened to beat up the Negroes because of a remark made by one colored man to his companions, and overheard by the white Americans.

In the melee that followed the whites were out-fought and shouted for help while the girl is reported to have phoned police. By the time police and MPs arrived, the Negroes had barricaded themselves inside the Colonial club, and began hurling bottles, bricks and other missiles at several hundred soldiers and sailors outside who were trying to break into the club.

A crowd, estimated at more than 1,000 Britishers watched the pitched battle until truck loads of British police and American military and naval police arrived just in time to avert a serious riot.

Threaten to Burn Club

British police threw a cordon around surrounding streets, while American military, with drawn truncheons, formed a barrier to prevent the hundreds of white Americans from forcibly entering the club, which some threatened to burn down.

At one stage of the fracas, MPs fired several shots into the air in an effort to disperse the angry mob. One American Negro tried to escape from the club into Shaftesbury avenue, but got only as far as Rainbow Corner and the Red Cross club—central meeting place

of white Americans—when he was set upon by whites and was about to be lynched.

British police arrived in the nick of time and beat off the attackers but not before the Negro had been so seriously beaten he had to be removed to a hospital for emergency treatment.

Arrest 100 Negroes

Armed civilian and military police then patrolled the district pushing back the crowds of white American soldiers until 23 Negroes could be removed from the Colonial club and taken to West Central police station for questioning. Some of the angered whites even tried to break through the police cordon, threatening to tear the Negroes apart, limb by limb, in real Dixie fashion, but the British police were determined to protect the colored men and save London from the stigma of a lynching.

After having cleared the Colonial club premises police guarded the entrance and blocked all approaches. More than 100 Negroes were rounded up and taken to police headquarters for questioning. When a police officer was interviewed, he said: "No charges will be brought against Negroes in Civil Court, but the behavior of white Americans will be the subject of a special investigation by the U. S. Provost Marshal's department."

After the colored men had been released from custody and warned to keep away from the Colonial club until peace had been fully restored, one police officer stated: "Allegations and counter-allegations are being made by both Negroes and white Americans, that the other had started the trouble."

Reporter Investigates

From an independent investigation, this reporter discovered that the real trouble started when two Marines and two other white Americans, accompanied by white girls passed near the entrance of the Colonial club where a few Negroes were assembled.

As the whites passed, one Negro made a remark which was resented by a white soldier. His companions then attacked the Negroes who retired into the club and fought back, supported by other colored men who rushed to their aid.

All four whites were reported badly beaten, one being taken to a hospital for treatment. While the girl summoned police, a white American rushed to the Rainbow Red Cross club and brought back hundreds of soldiers and sailors

who were celebrating V-J Day. The whites rushed to the aid of their comrades and soon fists, clubs and knives began to fly in the dense crowd around the Colonial club.

British and American military police had great difficulty re-establishing order and preventing renewed clashes between white Americans and Negroes—the latter hearing of the trouble, started assembling in different parts of London to march upon Rainbow Corner club and engage the white Americans in pitched battle.

U. S. White Soldiers And Negro Civilians Stage London Fight

LONDON, Aug. 18 — (AP) — Two white American soldiers and one Negro soldier were reported injured in street fighting between whites and Negroes in downtown London early today.

U. S. Army public relations officers said the two white soldiers were slightly injured. A police sergeant said the Negro soldier received a serious head wound and "police beat off his attackers in the nick of time."

Military authorities said they had made no arrests and Scotland Yard said no charges had been brought against civilians.

An Army spokesman said some of the fighters carried knives, but there was no evidence they were actually used. One pistol shot was fired, he said, but no one was hit.

Scotland Yard, revising earlier figures, said only five persons actually were involved in the disturbance. The British Press Association quoted eyewitnesses as saying 28 persons were taken from the scene by police, and then released.

The melee started, an eyewitness said, with an argument between a white soldier and a Negro civilian at the entrance of a club frequented by Negroes.

Witnesses said the Negro civilian told the soldier: "Why don't you get back to your own damned country?"

The ensuing argument soon became violent and the Negro was joined by others from the club. The white soldiers in turn found ready reinforcements in the throngs of service men always about that area at night.

The Negroes retreated inside the club. The others, armed with bottles and clubs, were restrained by bobbies and military police from going after them.

At least two white soldiers were taken to hospitals and a police sergeant said one Negro soldier received a serious head wound.